

The Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

Congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC. In your new leadership role, I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. I believe it would be unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers. Use more pay more I say! It's already hard for low income and fixed income households to afford phone service without all the frills. There is already a flat fee at various levels whether or not you even use the phone. Phone companies try very hard to convince customers that they need all this junk they offer, when infact they can get along very well without it! Many Seniors don't know that they can reduce the cost of their phone service with a Senior's Rate and also by how many calls they make. The phone company is not big on advertising this.

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you, and best of luck in your new position.

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

Dennis Deacon  
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